

HAITI

STRATEGIC FOCUS

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) began working with Haiti’s Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) in 2002 to address the growing HIV/AIDS epidemic. Initially focused on prevention and treatment services, CDC’s HIV work expanded to include laboratory systems strengthening, health information systems, workforce development and capacity building, and the integrated HIV and tuberculosis (TB) clinical services.

Currently, CDC and our partners are using data-driven, evidence-based strategies to accelerate efforts to achieve HIV epidemic control. This entails identifying undiagnosed people living with HIV (PLHIV), increasing the number of PLHIV enrolled and retained on antiretroviral therapy (ART) and improving viral suppression and TB preventive treatment (TPT) coverage.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Surveillance and Health Information Systems: CDC has increased access to strategic information by supporting the development of integrated health management information systems, including an electronic medical record (EMR) system, a national case-based surveillance system, a national monitoring and evaluation platform and biometric coding linked with EMR and the national HIV database.

HIV Case Finding: CDC is intensifying efforts to identify undiagnosed PLHIV with optimized testing strategies, including assisted self-testing activities and index testing, which is an approach that targets the exposed contacts of HIV-positive persons for HIV testing services.

Key Populations (KP): CDC is reaching KP with comprehensive HIV services via drop-in centers and by utilizing peer educator networks. These groups alongside medical personnel conduct HIV screening, social networking (an evidence-supported approach to engage and motivate a person to accept HIV testing), HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) eligibility, and linkage to treatment for HIV-positive clients.

Linkage to Care: CDC supported MSPP to implement the World Health Organization’s (WHO’s) Test and Start strategy in 2016, ensuring immediate ART eligibility for all patients with an HIV-positive diagnosis. Haiti was one of the first countries in the region to successfully roll out Test and Start. At the end of fiscal year (FY) 2020, close to 117,000 PLHIV were active on treatment within PEPFAR Haiti, with 79% of them within CDC-supported networks (Haiti Monitoring, Evaluation, and Surveillance Interface [MESI], iSanté EMR system).

Treatment Retention: CDC’s partners offer differentiated service delivery models, including multi-month dispensation (MMD) of ART and community drug distribution to ensure continuity of treatment. At the end of FY 2020, 90% of PLHIV received their ART via MMD (Haiti MESI, iSanté EMR system). CDC launched a mobile patient tracking application for identifying and tracing clients who missed appointments or experienced treatment interruption.

Laboratory Systems Strengthening: CDC Haiti continues to strengthen the National Public Health Laboratory (LNSP) through various approaches. With CDC support, LNSP is a national leader in HIV diagnostics including Early Infant Diagnosis and HIV viral load testing for treatment monitoring. CDC reinforced laboratory logistics: namely the National Specimen Referral Network that tracks and transports biologic specimens from facilities and other collection points to regional and central laboratories for processing. Over 95,000 ART patients received a viral load test and results in FY 2020, compared to 12,703 patients in FY 2016 (Haiti MESI, iSanté EMR system). CDC provided technical assistance in TB diagnostic practices and procedures and supported the renovation of the LNSP TB laboratory to meet international norms for a TB Containment Laboratory.

Quality Assurance: CDC continues to support Continuous Quality Improvement for HIV rapid testing (RT-CQI) - a comprehensive package of quality assurance and improvement activities that aims to promote the reliability and accuracy of HIV rapid testing.

TB/HIV: CDC is rapidly expanding the provision of ART to TB-HIV co-infected patients. In FY 2020, 86% of PLHIV completed TPT, nearly 90% of TB patients received an HIV test, and 96% of TB-HIV patients received ART (Haiti MESI, iSanté EMR system).

Key Country Leadership

- Prime Minister: Ariel Henry
- Minister of Health: Marie Gréta Roy Clement
- U.S. Ambassador: Michele J. Sison
- CDC/DGHT Director: Yorlan Grant-Greene

Country Quick Facts
(worldbank.org/en/where-we-work)

- Per Capita GNI: \$1,250 (2020)
- Population (millions): 11.40 (2020)
- Under 5 Mortality: 63/1,000 live births (2019)
- Life Expectancy: 64 years (2019)

Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic
(aidsinfo.unaids.org)

- Estimated HIV Prevalence (Ages 15-49): 1.9% (2020)
- Estimated AIDS Deaths (Age ≥15): 1,600 (2020)
- Estimated Orphans Due to AIDS: 67,000 (2020)
- Reported Number Receiving Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) (Age ≥15): 118,519 (2020)

Global Tuberculosis (TB) Epidemic
(who.int/tb/country/data/profiles/en)

- Estimated TB Incidence: 170/100,000 population (2019)
- TB Patients with Known HIV Status who are HIV-Positive: 16% (2019)
- TB Treatment Success Rate: 82% (2018)
- Estimated TB Mortality: 17/100,000 population (2019)

DGHT Country Staff: 65
Locally Employed Staff: 60
Direct Hires: 5
Fellows & Contactors: 0

Our success is built on the backbone of science and strong partnerships.

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